



Weekly Views

Indiana Department of Correction

June 26, 2015

THE STATE POLICE JUNIOR PIONEER CAMPOUT DROPS IN ON BRANCHVILLE: BCF Superintendent Kathy Alvey recently presented the Indiana State Police with a check in the amount of \$2500.00 to support the



Indiana State Police's worthwhile youth program. The camp is designed specifically for students between 11 and 14 who need a structured program with close supervision. Applicants typically come from group homes, welfare departments, law enforcement agencies, probation departments or school counselors. Superintendent was 100% behind the partnership. "We are proud to sponsor the 25 kids chosen for this special program. Our Unit Team does the leg

work through fundraisers so I appreciate their hard work. It's a great partnership between us and the Indiana State Police."



IREF CELEBRATES FATHER'S DAY IN A BIG WAY: Last Saturday smiling faces flooded the IREF campus. In a nutshell they came, they made merry then they conquered the hearts of their dads! This annual event allowed fathers and their children to enjoy a day of games, field events, a barbeque cook out with all the fixings, and talking and most importantly of all interacting with each other.

MCF PROVIDES AID TO TIPTON COUNTY AFTER SEVERE STORM DAMAGE:

During the early morning hours of June 21, 2015 a storm came through Tipton County and caused several downed trees and power lines throughout the entire County. Within hours after the storm came through it became evident that the widespread damage had surpassed the town's resources for cleanup. Miami Correctional Facility was able to provide Tipton County with a ten (10) man work crew supervised by two (2) Correctional Officers for the remainder of the week to assist Tipton City Street department in clean up. Mr. Chuck Bell, Director of Emergency Management for Tipton County said "I along with many others cannot express our gratitude enough in the help that has been extended to us from the DOC."



SELFLESS FOLKS RULE THE DAY AT WVCF!

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) staff rolled up their sleeves to donate the gift of life this week. Thirty-seven employees like Correctional Officer Andrea Mason took part in the latest WVCF Blood Drive. Officer Mason, just three months on the job, said she wants to do her part. She plans to be a regular contributor. WVCF teams with the Indiana Blood Center six times a year to provide blood donations. Everyone who gave, or tried to give was treated to a hamburger, chips and soda and names were drawn for several prizes by the WVCF Blood Drive Challenge Committee.



PARTY ON THE FAR NORTHSIDE! Indiana State Prison held their annual Family Day. Approximately 500 staff and guests attended the annual event. And although events were eventually moved inside due to the weather, it didn't dampen the spirit of the attendees. Some of the events included horse drawn carriage rides, elephant ears, tours of the facility and local vendors representing from health care to promote healthy lifestyles and a special demonstration were given by the facilities emergency squad.



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IDOC EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHT

Straight out of Urbana, Illinois he rolled into Central Office a little over a year ago with a singular purpose – to transform Colts Country into Packerville – and gets paid to do it! Lucas “Checkmate” Karr, the married father of two and Financial Analysis for IDOC is not apologetic about his yellow and green fetish. “I’m a huge Packer fan. As a matter of fact much of my time during football season revolves around the Green Bay and fantasy football.”



Now in case you’re wondering why his nickname is “Checkmate” Lucas fancies himself (I use that word because after all he *is* a Green Bay Packer’s fan) a chess player. And according to a few of his co-workers he’s pretty good. “I like him as a friend but I despise him as a chess player,” noted one co-worker who spoke on condition of anonymity. “Now I can take Checkmate’s ruthless ‘take-no-prisoners’ style of play all day long. It’s the trash talk that gets me.” I asked him to give me an example however at that point his eyes welled with tears and he scurried away like a frightened five-year-old.

Donned in his typical emerald and canary-yellow fashion I strolled (he strutted) toward his cubical sanctuary, a not so subtle homage to Aaron Rogers and his ilk. As a financial analysis Lucas is all about all the numbers. While watching him aggressively crunch his with the ferocity of a blacksmith, I asked him what he’s known for around the office. With a sly grin he takes one final stab at the keyboard and replied “I’m not sure which word is best...Thrifty? Scrimping? Frugal?”

“Cheap!” A chorus of responses rose from all around the Karr cubical. Lucas stood quickly his eyes narrowed and barely clearing the top of his cubical wall. “Yes I am! And I’m proud of it!” He replied with more than a hint of smugness. “In my position it’s a great attribute to have.”

He share that his supervisor, Christina Reagle, sold him on the job. The benefits and work schedule were perfect for a young guy with a family. Although it was a hard decision to move from Illinois to Indiana thanks to the job it was also the easiest one. Now he likes the fact that what he does for IDOC actually makes a difference...and the large number of state holidays isn’t bad either. His question for the Commissioner is simple. ‘What trait is necessary for a long productive career with the IDOC?’

Now if he were Commissioner for a day he’d issue a directive for all program managers be responsible for seeking out and applying for grant funding with the focus on hiring managers and expanding the IDOC footprint and reach in the State. In five years Lucas says he’ll be happy wherever God’s places him although right now he’s happy where he is now.

He likes to spend his free time with his family and kids and touts his breakfast sandwich as the best in the agency considering it was legendary back home in Urbana. Unknown by most outside of Central Office is that in the two corn hole tournaments held in his first year at IDOC he and fellow newbie Grant Knies swept the field –*twice*... and of course a lot of trash talking was involved. Lucas admits his memory is so bad that he doesn’t have a ‘most memorable’ day’, but he’d tell any prospective applicant that if you like great benefits and a chance to make a difference then take the job! **HAVE A GREAT WEEKEND EVERYONE!**



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